

Little Aids for the Fall Housecleaning

Housecleaning is getting to be a thoroughly tame proceeding. It steals upon the unsuspecting master of the house like a person with rubber heels and before he knows that it has struck the household, it is over and done with. No more is he requested to give a lift to the parlor rug that it may be strung along a line in the back yard and beaten to a pulp; no more does he stumble over the davenport on the front steps and hurdle the mattress on the back porch. It is the day of dustless dusting and deceased beatings.

A vacuum cleaner is now almost as necessary a household article as the carpet sweeper. One has recently been put on the market which is simply constructed and easily operated, and which costs only \$5. It is made on the principle of the bicycle pump except that the suction is made to

draw the dirt out. Appliances are always furnished with these cleaners which are especially adapted for cleaning cushions, curtains and the crevices of mattresses and upholstered furniture.

Then there is the dustless dust cloth. This cloth is chemically treated so that it absorbs every particle of dust and will allow none of it to be whisked from one object to another. It can be washed in soap and water without affecting the peculiar properties of it. There is a new sort of silver polish, also, in the form of a liquid in which the silver may be immersed. When removed and rubbed briskly a high polish is produced. This will be a comfort to housewives who have dreaded silver cleaning because of the gritty dust that is bound to get on the hands and in the hair.

Perhaps the story of the small boy who tried to scrub the kitchen floor by skating over it blithely with scrubbing brushes strapped to both feet may have suggested adding a long handle to the back-breaking scrubbing brush. The most practicable brush of this sort has an adjustable handle which may be set at any angle desired, and which may also be placed so that the brush may be propelled in either a lengthwise or crosswise position.

If the general renovating of the house this fall includes new furniture, the discarded chairs and other articles may be quite easily re-finished for use in the bed rooms, perhaps. There is now a varnish remover which will do away with the tedious sand-papering heretofore necessary. It is a liquid that is applied with a sponge. When

it is wiped off after a short time it will remove every trace of varnish.

A clever woman who herself enamored an entire bed room set which was originally golden oak, devised some new hangings, also, for the room to take the place of the faded and whipped-out curtains, that summer suns and rains had ruined. She got some unbleached sheeting, of the width sold for single beds and dyed it with a package of dyes. The white enamel with which she had painted her furniture she had tinted a pale green, so that she made her hangings a shade darker. A four inch hem at the bottom with one or two inches at the top and sides made a neat finish. From the portions of the old curtains which had not faded she then cut the large pink roses and applied them on the sheeting to form a border, outlining the whole with carnot warp.

New Wall Papers and Draperies Are Attractive

The decorator is no longer hampered by limitations in color and design of the wall papers and hangings offered to him for selection. Not only will he find unlimited and hitherto unattainable effects in both lines, but there is a marked tendency toward the collaboration of manufacturers, so that with many wall papers may be obtained draperies specially woven to match or harmonize. A living room, for example, papered with a plain paper in one of the new greys, may have a frieze of a rich mulberry hue, and velvet portieres and window draperies in the same shade, with, sometimes, the conventional motif of the frieze suggested in the border of the draperies.

In a house where the general character of the furnishings is in keeping with the somewhat austere effect, plain plastered walls left a greyish white, or tinted fawn color are particularly good for the living room. The landscape papers are to be greatly used this season, and show some rather startling designs. One daring, yet at the same time, quiet effect, showed a leafy forest with a hoard leaping into view and a bird of paradise lending a touch of color to the subdued tones.

The scenic frieze above a wainscoting in harmonizing woods is well liked for the dining room. The so-called conquest of the air has brought out many aerially suggestive papers, with happy results. Brilliantly plumed birds of every kind are seen in many of the newest conceptions. Even a bed room paper was noticed which carried out this idea. Over the white ground of the paper were scattered twigs and branches upon which tiny birds perched cheerfully.

For the bed room the two-toned stripes remain in favor, although the French chambray with a narrow border carried around the windows and doors as well as for the top border of the side walls, is very popular. Papers in 1830 styles are quaint and attractive. These usually have old fashioned baskets of flowers or prim little nosegays, or vases and festooned garlands in softest colorings.

A new bath room paper has appeared which is a delight in its blending of blue, green and white. Between the blue of sky and the foamy green of sea white sea gulls wing a graceful flight.

If none of these tempting new papers are to find their way to your walls here is a hint from a paper-

hanger about cleaning the old. Get a roll of cheap cotton batting and rub the walls thoroughly. It is said to work wonders.

Drapery Notes.

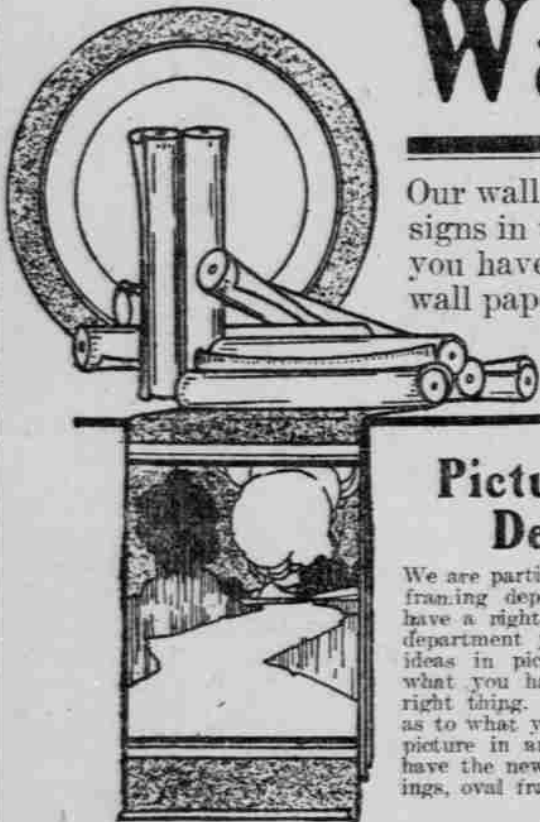
Madras is now being used for portiers as well as for window draperies. Sateen in a color to set off the pattern and colors of the madras is used as a sort of inter-lining, with the thin material on both sides of it. This makes an unusual, effective portier.

The printed India cotton curtains are among the most desirable curtains obtainable at a moderate price. They may be bought for from \$5 to \$7 a pair and are in subtle colorings not found in any other fabrics.

Bed room draperies may be had at almost any price. There is the Indian head or the poplin at 15c a yard, the cotton taffetas at 35c and chintz in a good width at 65c. A material similar to poplin which is to be found in all shades is what is called mercerized Jaspé.

For the stencilled curtains Monk's cloth or burlap is greatly used. A new idea is to work designs on the burlap with colored raffia.

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